



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

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RL:290

SR 403  
REQUESTING STUDY  
OF  
PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Statement for the  
Senate Committee on Ecology, Environment and Recreation  
Public Hearing 7 April 1978

by  
Doak C. Cox, Environmental Center

SR 403 requests that a study, by several Senate committees during the interim before the next session of the Legislature, of a proposal combining several present state agencies in a new Department of Environmental Affairs and Natural Resources.

There are clearly merits to the proposed reorganization. However, as is the case in any reorganization, the improvement in coordination among certain related agencies that will be achieved by grouping them in a single department will be accompanied by losses in coordination between these agencies and others with which they are also related.

Careful study of any extensive reorganization proposal is warranted. The Environmental Center has obvious concerns with environmental affairs, generally, including natural resources, and will be pleased to assist in the proposed study in any way within its capabilities.